

ADDITIONAL NOTES ON THE GENUS PETREA. III

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PETREA Houst.

This genus is placed in the section Verbeneae of the family Labiatae, as an accepted genus, by H. G. L. Reichenbach in his Conspect. Reg. Veg. 1: 117 (1828), where he writes the name "Petrea L." It is classified in the same way by Reichenbach in Mössler, Handb. Gewächsk., ed. 1, 1: xxvi (1827) and ed. 3, 1: lxxv (1833).

An excluded species is Petrea scandens Née, in herb., which is a synonym of Coffea arabica L. of the Rubiaceae.

PETREA ARBOREA H.B.K.

Steyermark records the common name "nacareno" for this plant and describes it as a shrub 5 feet tall with chartaceous leaves, wrinkled along the outer margin, and bracts deep-purple, growing at altitudes of 1065--1220 m.

Additional citations: VENEZUELA: Lara: Steyermark 55546 (F--1205142).

PETREA ASPERA Turcz.

Steyermark records the common name "flor de mayo" and describes the plant as a high-climbing liana with "firmly membranaceous-chartaceous" or "subcoriaceous-chartaceous" leaves that are deep- or rich-green above and dull-green or paler rich-green beneath, the calyx rich-lavender with purplish-blue midrib, the corolla deep-lavender, blooming in April at altitudes of 230--820 m. in rocky upland chaparral and valley savannas.

Additional citations: VENEZUELA: Sucre: Steyermark 62368 (F--1205703, N), 62801 (N).

PETREA BRACTEATA Steud.

A common name for this species in British Guiana is "sandpaper vine" and the plant is described as a soft gray "rope" with stems 1--2 cm. thick, growing in the crowns of small trees by creeks; with leathery, supple or stiff, rugose, scabrous leaves, the upper surface of the young ones "navy-blue green like the spike"; flowers in small axillary or terminal dark purple-green spikes, the corolla tubular, purple or violet-purple, hairy in the throat; the epicalyx membranous, violet or pale-blue when fully expanded.

Additional citations: BRITISH GUIANA: Forest Dept. Br. Guiana 4470 [F.1734] (N), 4471 [F.1735] (N).